

2001P80126WOUS
Martin von Weber**AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS**

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~striketrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

1. A method of making a throttle-valve housing and a throttle valve, comprising the steps of:

- fabricating said housing and valve as a single cast injection molding, said housing comprising inner walls defining an internal through-opening, said valve comprising a radially encircling edge in contact with said inner wall; ~~and~~
- ~~demolding said a~~ cast after said cast hardens; ~~and~~
- cutting along said edge so as to separate said valve and housing; ~~;~~
- providing a pair of opposing bearing bores in said housing, said bearing bores shaped and positioned to accommodate said ends therein;
- inserting a core part in each of said bearing bores, each of said part having a diameter substantially equivalent to an internal diameter of said bearing bore and an outer diameter of said shaft bore, said bore further having a flat side face which faces one another when each of said bores is inserted into each of said bearing bores;
- wherein said opening comprises a central longitudinal axis and said method further comprises the step of pivotably mounting said valve along a pivot axis, said pivot axis extending transverse to said central axis; and
- wherein said throttle valve comprises a shaft and a shaft bore positioned on said pivot axis said shaft bore shaped so as to rotatably accommodate a portion of said shaft therein, and said method further comprising the step of mounting said shaft into said shaft bore such that ends of said shaft extend beyond said shaft bore.

2. The method according to claim 1, wherein said valve is in a closed position when said edge contacts said inner wall, said closed position being defined by the breaking of passage through said opening by said valve.

3. The method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of fitting said housing and valve for use in a motor vehicle.

4. (cancelled).

5. (cancelled).

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6. (cancelled).
7. (cancelled).
8. (currently amended) The method according to claim 7₁, wherein said bearing bores have a larger cross section than said shaft bore.
9. (original) The method according to claim 8, further comprising the step of inserting at least one bearing into each of said bearing bores between said end and said bearing bore internal wall thereby facilitating rotation of said ends within said bearing bores.
10. (original) The method according to claim 9, wherein said at least one bearing is a rolling-contact bearing.
11. (currently amended) The method according to claim 6₁, wherein said throttle valve comprises a hub-like thickened portion through which said shaft bore extends substantially coaxially.
12. (original) The method according to claim 11, wherein a cross section of said thickened portion is produced to approximately correspond to a cross section of said bearing bores.
13. (currently amended) The method according to claim 7₁, wherein said step of inserting further comprises the step of inserting a portion of each of said parts into said opening via said bearing bores.
14. (original) The method according to claim 1, wherein said step of cutting further comprises the step of using a laser to perform said step of cutting.
15. (original) The method according to claim 1, wherein said step of cutting further comprises the step of using a cutting tool to perform said step of cutting.
16. (original) The method according to claim 12, wherein said step of cutting further comprises the step of using a cutting tool to perform said step of cutting.

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17. (original) The method according to claim 16, wherein said cutting tool is introduced axially into said opening and has an encircling cutting edge a peripheral contour of which corresponds to an inner contour of said opening, said inner contour being located proximate to said throttle valve.

18. (original) The method according to claim 17, wherein said peripheral contour comprises recesses which approximately correspond to a cross section of said hub-like thickened portion of the throttle valve.

19. (original) The method according to claim 16, wherein said throttle valve, in said closed position, is inclined to said longitudinal axis at an angle substantially but not equal to a right angle inclined with respect to said longitudinal axis, and said peripheral contour further defines a cutting plane inclined at said angle.

20. (original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of producing said throttle-valve housing and throttle valve as a plastic injection molding.

21. (original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of producing said throttle-valve housing and throttle valve as a light-metal injection molding.

22. (original) The method according to claim 21, wherein said light metal comprises aluminum.